# **Forest Accomplishments**

# Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area

USDA, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region

## Recreation Fees Make a Difference in the Columbia River Gorge



Protecting and enhancing the recreation resources in the Columbia River Gorge is one of the primary purposes of the National Scenic Area. As we continue to face tight recreation budgets, the public demand to protect and enhance our recreation facilities and develop new recreational opportunities continue to grow. To help meet these demands and fulfill our mission to protect and enhance recreational resources, the National Scenic Area has participated in the Recreation Fee Demonstration Program since 1998.

In 2004, fees were used to help staff the Multnomah Falls visitor center as well as maintaining 36 miles of trail. We also continued our exciting partnership with Mid

Columbia Council of Governments to field a 21 person youth trail crew. The program provides an opportunity for youth to learn "job skills," participate in meaningful work while enhancing their knowledge and appreciation of the natural environment. Last year the crew completed 13 miles of maintenance and 8 miles of trail reconstruction!

Thank you for supporting the recreation fee program in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. If you have any questions or concerns about the recreation fee program, please feel free to contact us.

## The Fees:

Project Name	Revenue Collected 2004	E>	cpenditures 2004
Northwest Forest Pass	\$ 114,087	\$	192,438
Camping	\$ 17,185	\$	13,550
Golden Passes	\$ 934	\$	
Multnomah Falls	\$ 231,087	\$	153,290
Recreation Lodging	\$ 3,460	\$	1,738

### More Detailed Information

**Forest Website:** 

www.fs.fed.us/r6/columbia/ forest

Pacific Northwest Region www.fs.fed.us/r6

## Forest Accomplishments

Prepared by the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area

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Your Fees At Work: Trail maintenance

## The Accomplishments:

#### **Northwest Forest Pass:**

Maintained 36 miles of trail to standard and reconstructed 8 miles of trail. Continued partnership with Mid Columbia Council of Governments to field a 26-person youth crew. Partnered with Hood River School District to field a 4 person disabled youth crew. The crew performed routine maintenance at recreation sites and trailheads. Provided routine maintenance and enhanced security of picnic areas and trailheads. Replaced the deficient restroom at the North Bonneville Trailhead.



The project provided funds to reprint the Gorge Vista recreation newspaper for the CRGNSA. The paper

provides recreation and interpretive information about the Columbia River Gorge.



#### Campgrounds:

Completed routine maintenance of all three campgrounds through the campground hosts program and Forest Service staff. Fee Demo revenues funded host stipend and staff.



#### Cabin Rentals:

Project funds were augmented with appropriated facility maintenance funds to begin retro fitting the shelter, paths and selected campsites for universal access and correcting resource damage around the shelter caused by over use.

#### Multnomah Falls:

Supported the operations of visitor center and site 7 days per week from mid-February through November and to operate with extended hours during the summer months. Partnered with the Friends of Multnomah Falls and Multnomah Falls Co., Inc. to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Family Day during Father's Day weekend. The event included a barbeque, activities for kids, Smokey Bear, Warm Springs Dancers, and public information provided by the many Gorge recreation stakeholders' booths.

Operated and maintained the wastewater treatment plant

The project provided funds to reprint of the popular Columbia Gorge "tear sheet' maps.